MBTA Key Bus Route Improvement Program

Community Meeting
Route 66 - Boston

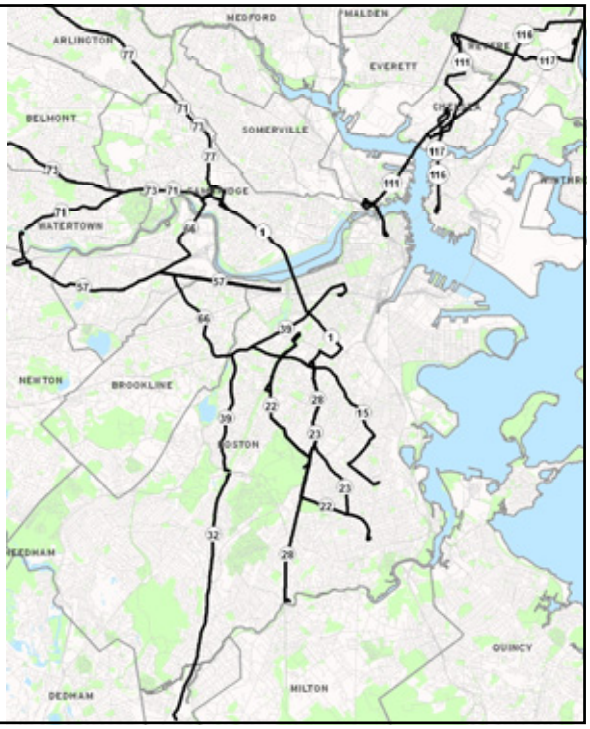
March 8, 2011
Jackson Mann Community Center

Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Safety briefing/Accommodations
- Key Bus Route Program overview
- Existing conditions
- Recommendations
- Next Steps
- Discussion

Introduction

- 15 Key Bus Routes
- $10 million funding



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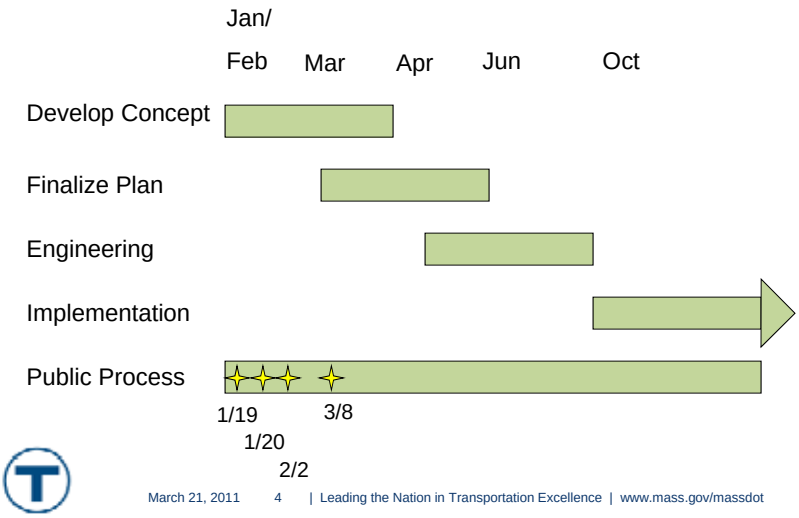
Project Schedule
Bus Route 66



Key Bus Route Goals

- **Reliability**
  - less bus bunching
- **Faster service**
  - fewer delays, less stops, shorter trip times
- **Improved accessibility**
  - for seniors and persons with disabilities
- **Passenger amenities**
  - shelters, benches, signage, trash barrels

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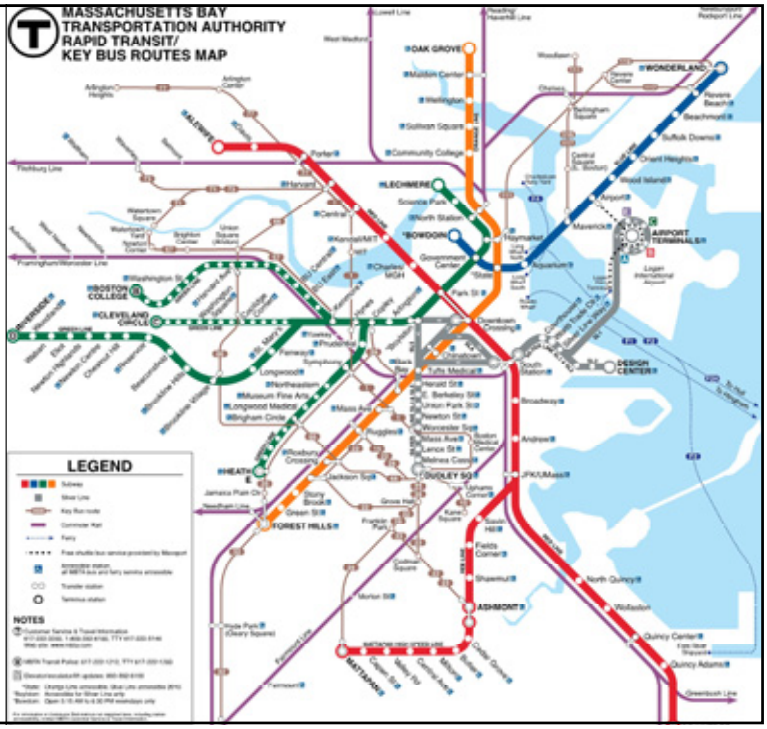
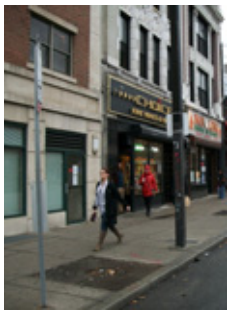
Key Bus Routes



Typical Conditions

Bus stop too short



Poorly located boarding area

Bus stops too close

Signage issues

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Improved Accessibility

Legal Mandate

- All bus doors must open at curb
- Deter cars from parking in stops

Providing accessible curb access requires longer bus stops

- Bus Stops must meet Current Guidelines for 40’ buses

Farside – 60ft

Nearside – 80ft

Required Bus Stop Lengths

Midblock (or after left hand turn) – 100ft

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Reliability Issues

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Good bus stop locations:

- Sufficient length to pull to the curb
- Clear boarding/alighting area
- Not blocking crosswalks or driveways
- Proper Spacing
- Considerate of adjacent traffic

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Factors for Improving Stop Locations

- Ridership – customer boardings and alightings
- Proximity to schools, medical centers etc
- Distance to adjacent stops
- Reducing traffic congestion
- Parking impacts
- Potential to add amenities – shelters, benches etc.

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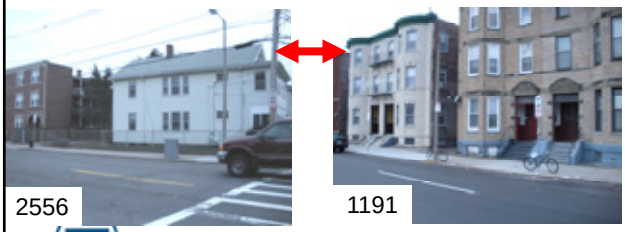
Bus Stop Spacing

- Ideal spacing is 4 - 7 stops per mile
  (every 750-1,320 ft)
  (4-6 minutes walking distance)
- Route 66 has stops as close as 310 ft



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Bus Stop Consolidation

Benefits

- Shortens bus trip times
- Improves service reliability
- Minimizes “stop & go” experience
- Provides additional parking spaces
- Ability to provide better stop amenities

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massDOT Rail & Transit Division

Traffic Signal Improvements

massDOT Rail & Transit Division

Improved Amenities

Shelters

Trash receptacles

Schedule tubes

Benches

Pavement markings

Improving Customer Information

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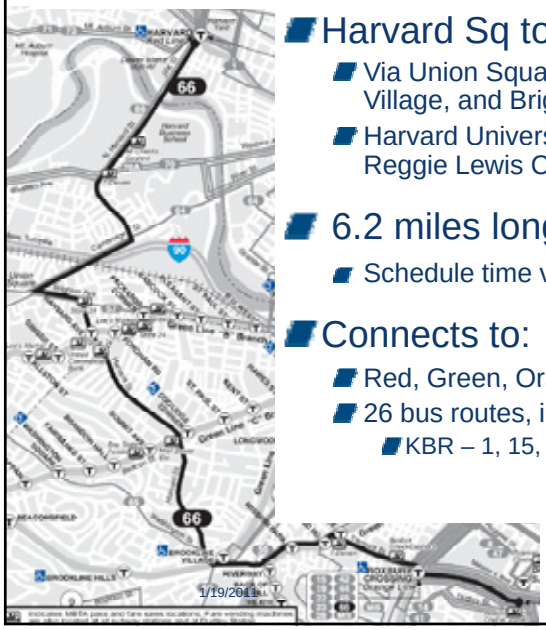
ANYWHERE
6 minutes
Where's the T?
Using real-time information instead of schedules, new apps tell you where your bus or train is and when it will actually arrive!
How to find an app:
1. Go to MBTA.com/apps
Check out our app gallery to find an app that works for you! Real-time applications are available for smartphones, web, text and your desktop.
2. Search "MBTA" in your smartphone's app store.
There are apps for the most popular platforms. Pick the one you like and download it to your phone!
mbta.com/apps
or search MBTA in your phone's app store

Route 66: Overview

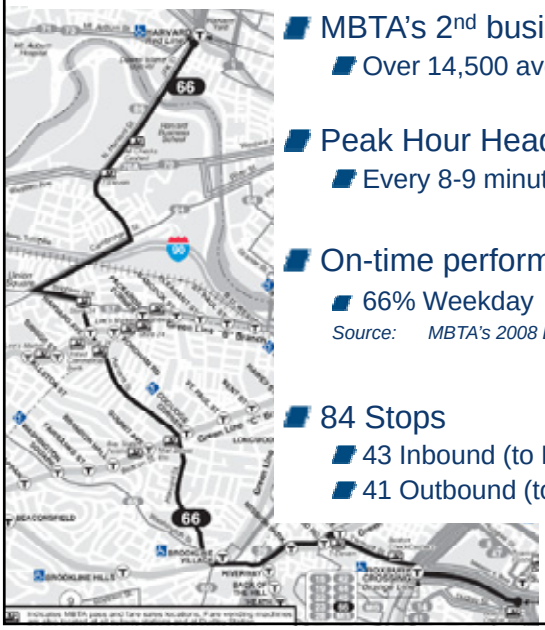
massDOT Massachusetts Department of Transportation Rail & Transit Division



- Harvard Sq to Dudley Station
  - Via Union Square, Coolidge Corner, Brookline Village, and Brigham Circle
  - Harvard University, Brigham & Women's Hospital, Reggie Lewis Center
- 6.2 miles long
  - Schedule time varies by time of day (28-47 min.)
- Connects to:
  - Red, Green, Orange & Silver Lines
  - 26 bus routes, including:
    - KBR – 1, 15, 22, 23, 28, 57, 71, 73, 77

1/19/2011

Route 66: Overview



- MBTA's 2nd busiest route-
  - Over 14,500 avg. daily boardings
- Peak Hour Headways
  - Every 8-9 minutes
- On-time performance
  - 66% Weekday

  Source: MBTA's 2008 Biennial Service Plan
- 84 Stops
  - 43 Inbound (to Dudley Square)
  - 41 Outbound (to Harvard Square)

Revised Preliminary Recommendations

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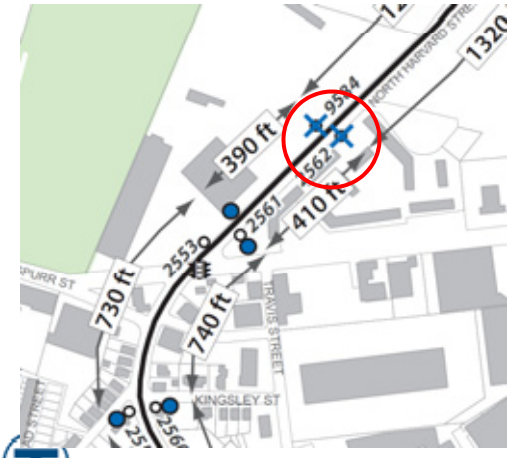
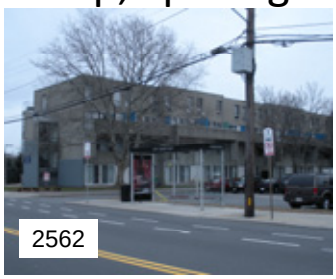
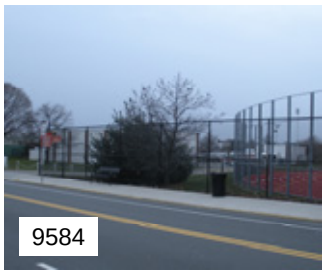
N. Harvard Ave @ Harvard Stadium

175 N. Harvard St

Remove IB & OB stops – Ridership, Spacing







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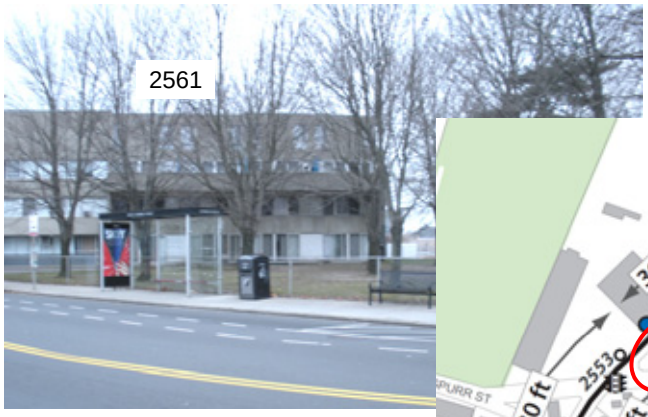
N. Harvard St at Western Ave

OB - Add pavement markings, lengthen stop



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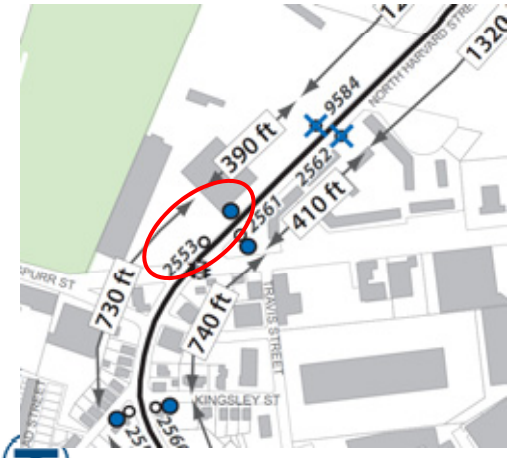
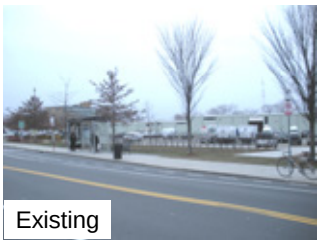
N. Harvard St at Western Ave

Relocate IB stop; investigate shared lanes; add pavement markings.




Existing

Proposed

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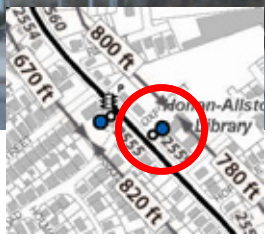
N. Harvard St – Add Amenities

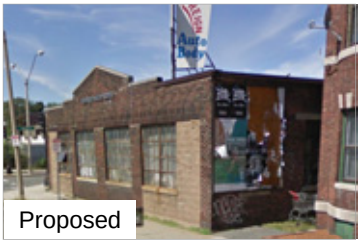
N. Harvard St at Oxford St

Lengthen bus stop; add trash receptacle and pavement markings; investigate crosswalk.



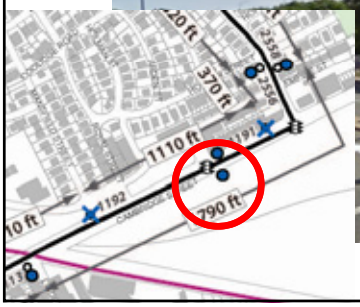
Cambridge Street @ N. Harvard/Lincoln

Consolidate to nearside Lincoln St; add amenities.



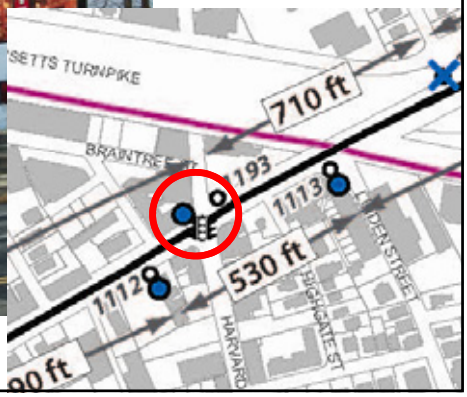
Cambridge Street OB @ Lincoln Street

Investigate adding new stop.



Cambridge St @ Franklin St

Relocate to farside and add amenities



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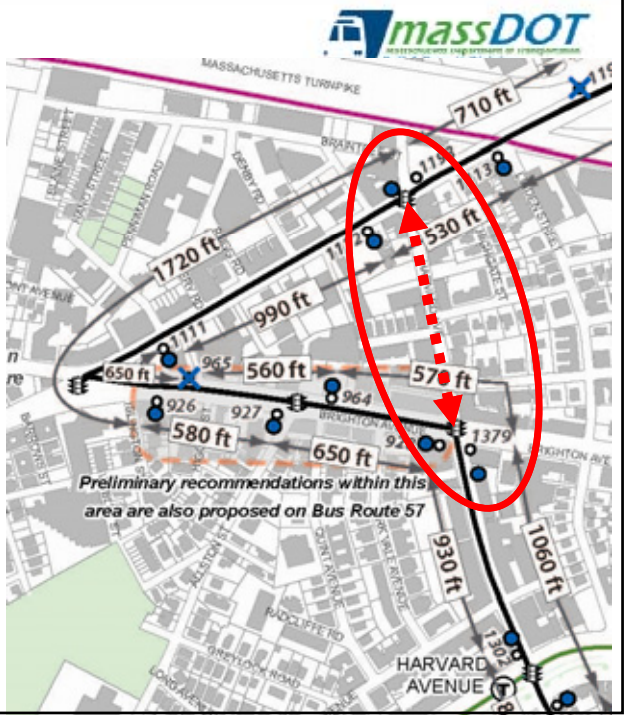
Union Square Loop

1,406 boardings
10% ridership

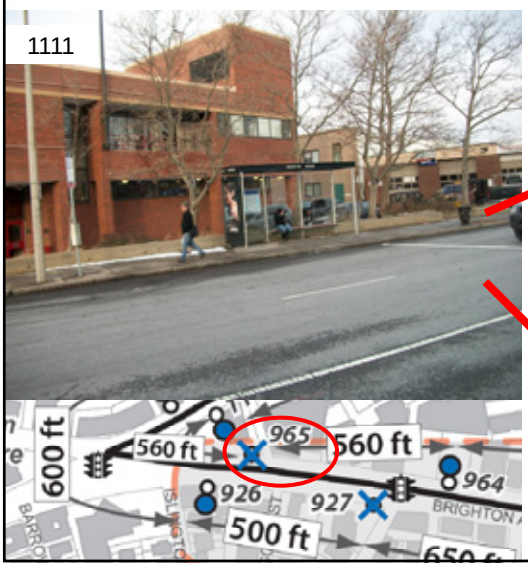
Overall
time savings



Brighton Ave

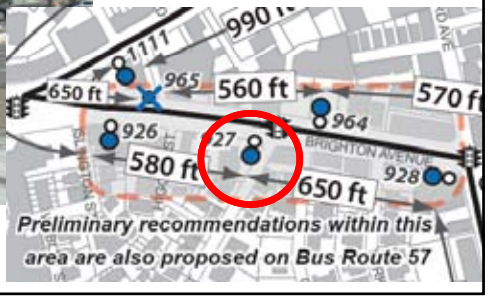
Brighton Ave @ Craftsman

Remove stop, and relocate shelter



Brighton Ave @ Allston

Retain stop. Investigate bench, trash receptacle, and sidewalk improvements.



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Brighton Ave @ Harvard Ave

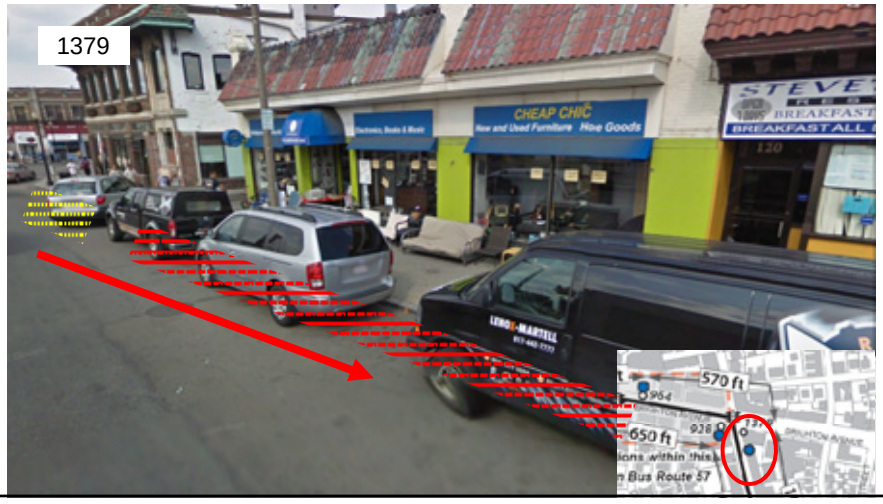
Lengthen bus stop, add bench and trash receptacle, investigate shared lane.

Harvard Ave @ Brighton Ave

Relocate bus stop; investigate signal improvements

Harvard Ave @ Brighton Ave

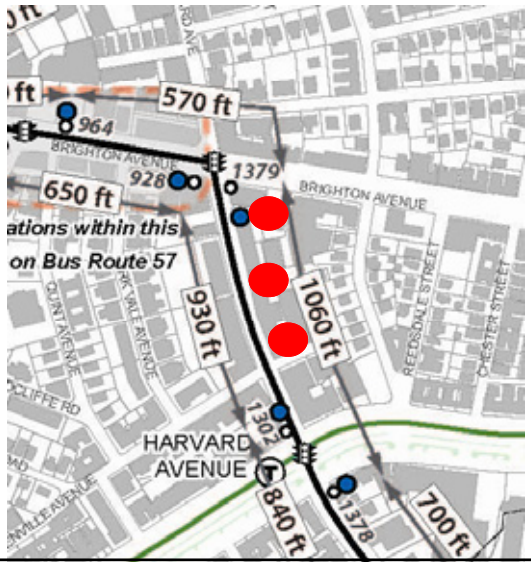
Relocate bus stop and investigate signal improvements



Harvard Ave @ Brighton Ave

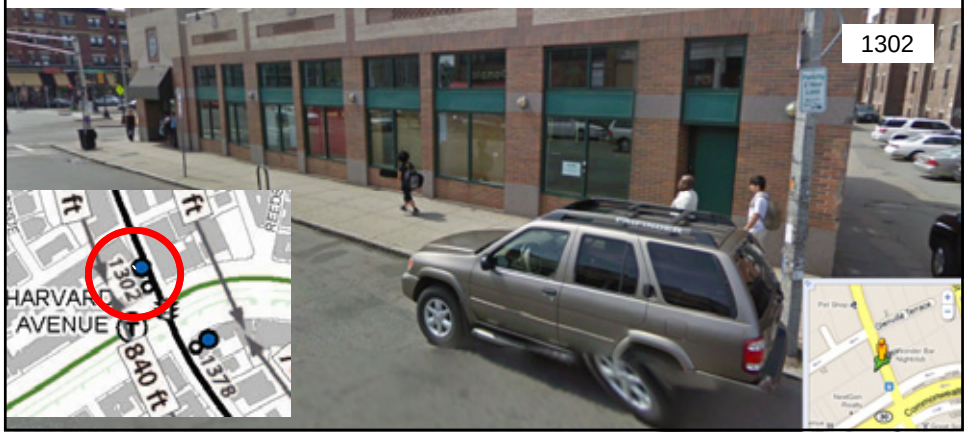
Relocate bus stop; investigate signal improvements

Potential Stop locations



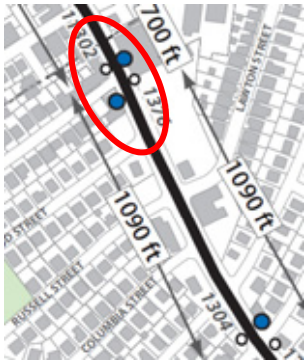
Harvard Ave @ Comm Ave (Inbound)

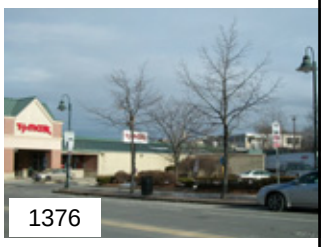
Relocate stop away from intersection. Add pavement markings. Investigate signal improvements



Harvard St @ Verndale St

Relocate IB and OB farside.
Add shelter at inbound stop.





Harvard St @ Beals St

Consolidate with Babcock St to nearside of Stedman St

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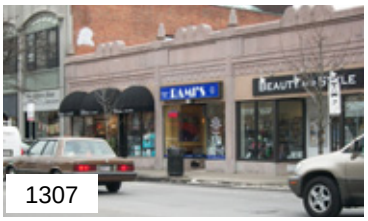
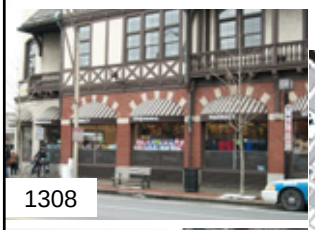
Harvard St at Williams St

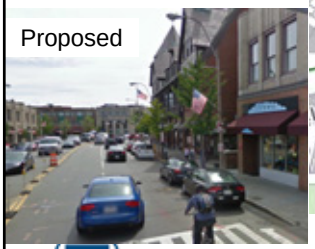
Consolidate with Harvard St opp Babcock St to farside Shailer St.

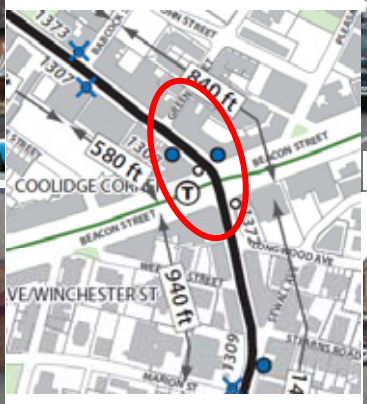


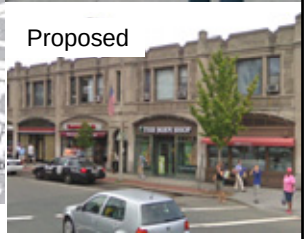
Harvard St @ Beacon St

Shift inbound and relocate outbound to farside. Add amenities.









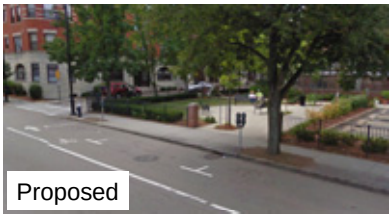
Harvard St @ Sewall Ave

Add new stop to reduce distance between stops*. Add bench and trash receptacle.

* Only if Beacon St stop moves to farside.

Harvard St @ Marion St

Consolidate with Harris St to nearside Foster St, only if shelter can be accommodated at new location.



Harvard St opp Vernon St

Signal: Investigate TSP and OB shared bus lane/right-turn lane

1371

Harvard St @ Auburn St

Remove stop to improve bus stop spacing and due to low ridership.

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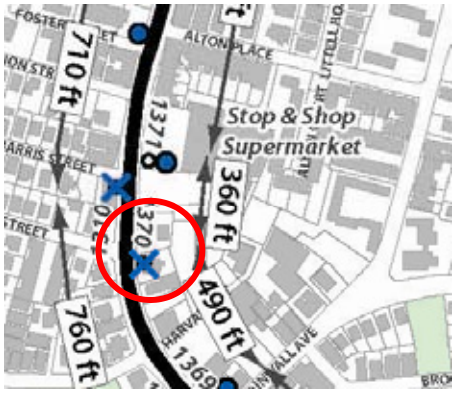
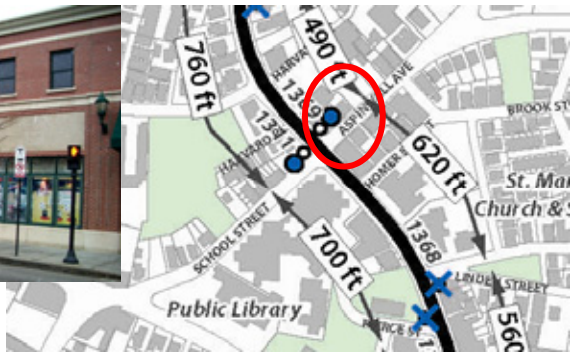


Harvard St @ Aspinwall St

Rearrange furniture to improve accessibility and add shelter.



Harvard St @ Linden St/Pierce St

Remove inbound and outbound stops to improve spacing and low ridership.

Huntington Ave at Jamaicaway

Relocate stop near S. Huntington. Add bench, trash receptacle, pavement markings.

Huntington Ave

Recommendations consistent with Rte 39 Process

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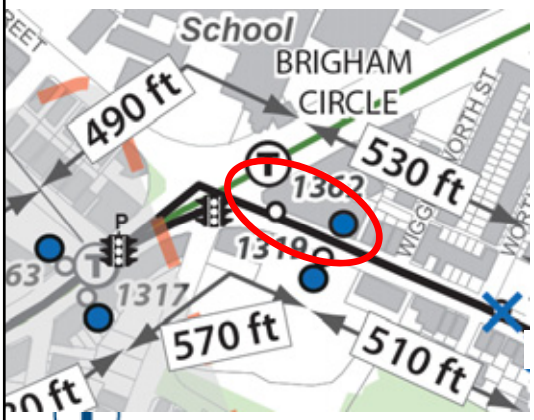
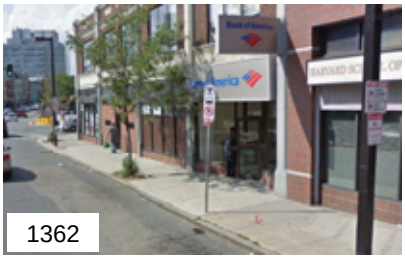
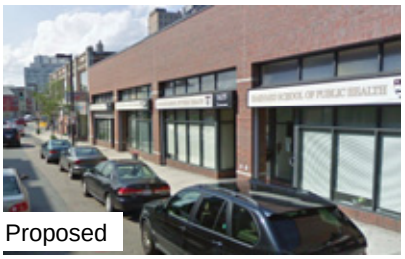
Tremont St @ Huntington Ave.

Relocate stop back from intersection. Add pavement markings and amenities







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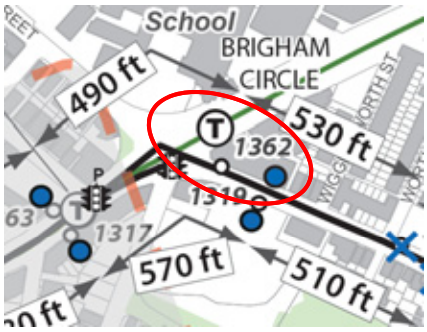
Tremont St @ Huntington Ave

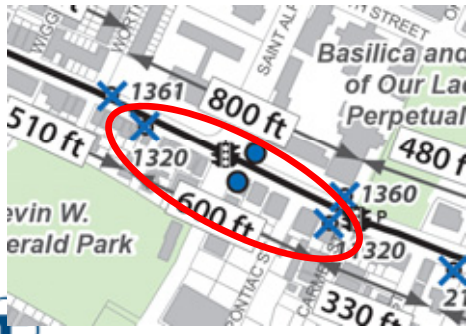
Outbound: Investigate signal improvements to create 2 approach lanes



Tremont St @ Whitney St and @ Carmel St.

Consolidate stops. New stop farside of St Alphonsus St.

Add Amenities



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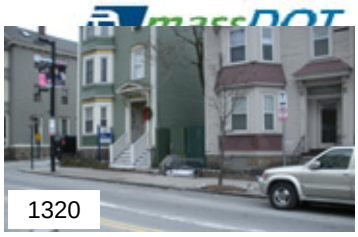
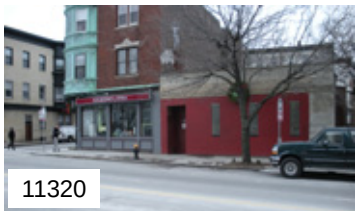
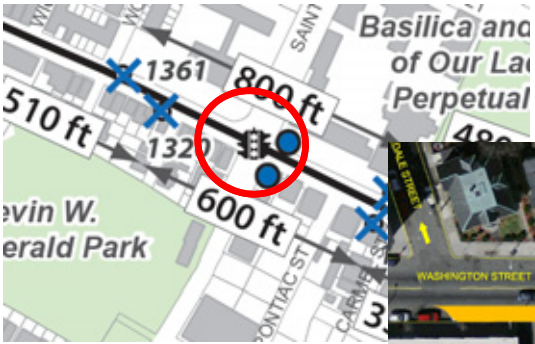
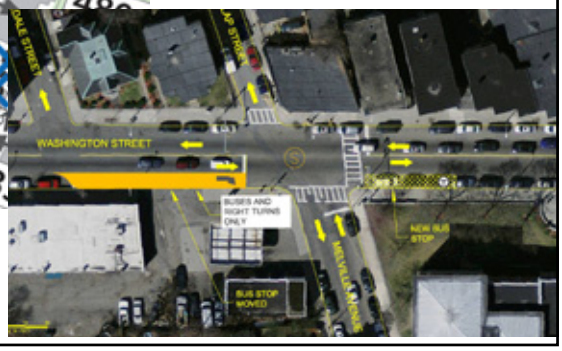




Tremont St @ St Alphonsus

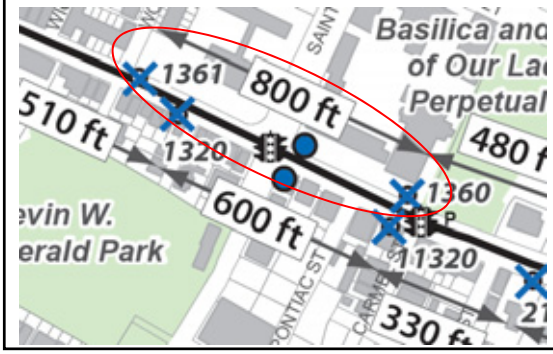
Inbound: Investigate shared bus lane/ right-turn lane





Tremont St @ Worthington St and @ Mission Church.

Consolidate stops. New stop nearside of St. Alphonsus St. Add shelter, trash receptacle and pavement markings, investigate signal improvements.



Tremont St @ Burney St

Remove stop and relocate shelter.

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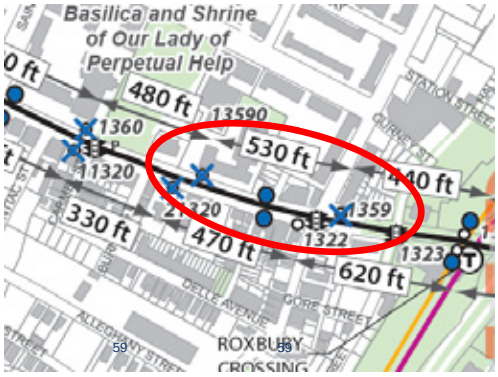
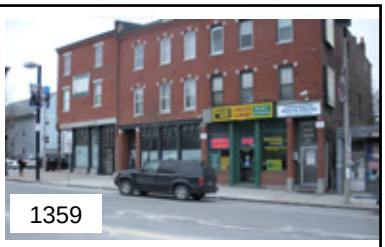
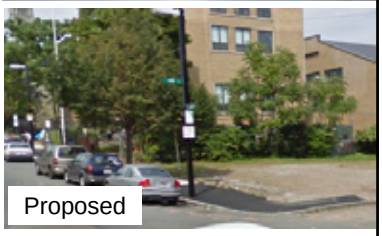
Tremont St @ Parker St and @ Tobin Community Center

Consolidate stops. New stop farside of Faxton St. Add trash receptacle, pavement markings, look into shelter.




1359


Proposed

13590

Tremont St @ Parker St

Relocate stop far side of Sewall St

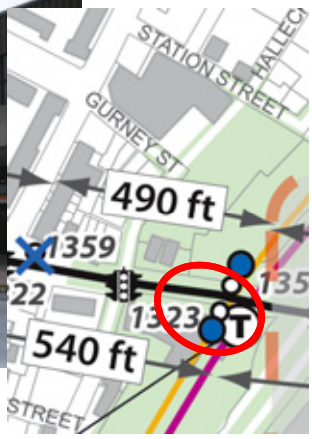
Add trash receptacle and pavement markings.

Proposed

Existing

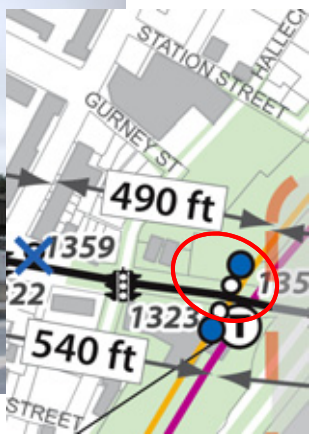
Tremont St at Columbus Ave

Shorten IB stop to 80’; add pavement markings; investigate signal improvements



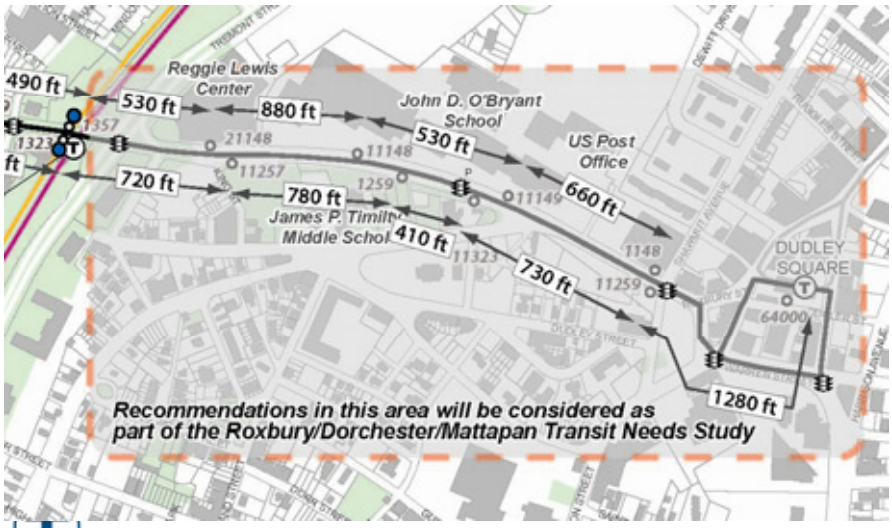
Tremont St opp Roxbury Crossing

Add trash receptacle and pavement markings, shorten stop to 100’; investigate ped and signal improvements.



Malcolm X Blvd.

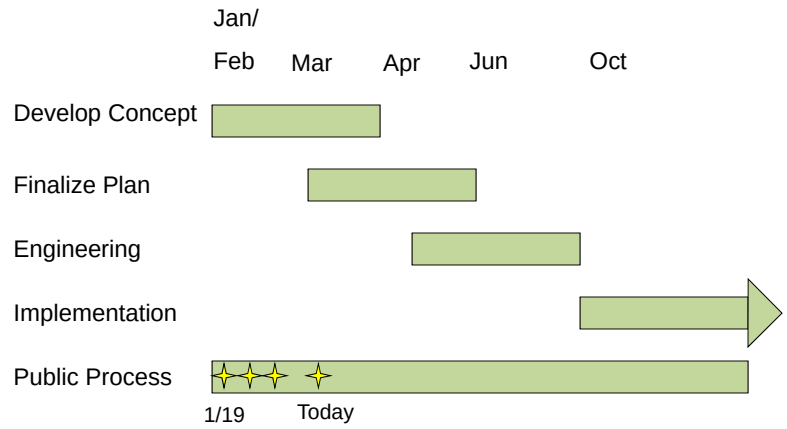
Recommendations per RDM Study



Summary of Preliminary Recommendations

- Add shelters, benches, trash receptacles
- Stops lengthened for accessibility
- Stops relocated
- Stops Consolidated
  - Current Stop Plan 42 IB/41OB
  - Proposed Stop Plan 34 IB/35 OB
- Investigating traffic signal improvements
- Sidewalk Improvements/Curb Extensions

Project Schedule
Bus Route 66



Public Outreach

March 8, 2011

Overall Project Schedule

KEY BUS ROUTE	MUNICIPALITIES SERVED	PLANNING BEGINS
23	Boston	Underway
39	Boston	Underway
1	Boston/Cambridge	January 2011
57	Boston/Newton/Watertown	January 2011
66	Boston/Brookline/Cambridge	January 2011
111	Boston/Chelsea/Revere	February 2011
116/117	Boston/Chelsea/Revere	February 2011
71	Cambridge/Watertown	March 2011
73	Cambridge/Belmont	March 2011
77	Arlington/Cambridge	March 2011
15	Boston	April 2011
22	Boston	April 2011
28	Boston	Ongoing in coordination with RDM Transit Needs Study
32	Boston	April 2011

March 8, 2011

Comments and Next Steps

- Project Updates at www.mbta.com/keybusroutes
- Mail to Operations and Service Development, 45 High St, Boston, MA 02110
- Email to keybusroutes@mbta.com
- Next community meeting
  - **Route 57: March 14, 2011 @ 6:30 PM**
    St. Elizabeth's Hospital
- Discussion

Discussion

We want to hear from you!